

South Carolina Governor's Professor of the Year Program

History of the Award

Act 629 of 1988 (the "Cutting Edge" legislation) established the Governor's Professor of the Year Award, whereby each public or private institution of higher education in South Carolina can nominate one faculty member who has demonstrated exceptional teaching performance for this award. A committee consisting of representatives of the Governor's office, the Commission, and appropriate civic, business, government, and academic organizations was required to select the winner, who would receive a citation and a payment of five thousand dollars.

In 1996, the General Assembly amended the legislation to provide for two "Professors of the Year," one from a two-year institution and one from a senior institution. Each award was to be accompanied by a citation and a payment of five-thousand dollars.

From 1988 through 2007, thirty-two faculty members have been selected as Governors' Professors of the Year, fourteen from public senior institutions, six from private senior institutions, and twelve from public two-year institutions. Finalists are chosen based on written nominations, supporting materials, and interviews with the selection committee.